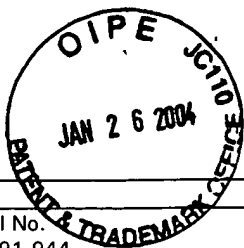


A circular black ink stamp from the Intellectual Property Office (IPO). The text "O I P E" is at the top, "JAN 26 2004" is in the center, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is at the bottom. The stamp is partially overlapping the "postage" label.

Date of Signature/

Please amend this application as follows:



TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No. 4865/153
Serial No. 10/691,944	Filing Date October 23, 2003	Examiner not yet assigned	Group Art Unit not yet assigned
Inventor(s) Lowell D. Bok, et al.			
Title of Invention BATCH AND CONTINUOUS CVI DENSIFICATION FURNACE			

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment, Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, Seven (7) Other Art References, and a Return Postcard.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☐ Petition for a _____ month extension of time.
- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total		Minus		
Indep.		Minus		
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				

Small Entity		or	Other Than Small Entity	
Rate	Add'l Fee		Rate	Add'l Fee
x \$9 =			x \$18 =	
x 43 =			x \$86 =	
+ \$145 =			+ \$290 =	
Total add'l fee	\$		Total add'l fee	\$

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen A. Odar
Registration No. 32,806
Attorney for Applicant
Customer No. 00757 - Brinks Hofer Gilson Lione

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 21, 2004.

Date:

1/21/04

Signature: